

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 26 July 2005. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action and the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment dated 8 December 2005, Claim 1 has been amended, and given the status identifier indicating such, to clarify the combination of elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application and Claim 2 has been cancelled.

In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gauthier et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,161,768, in view of Shattan, U.S. Patent No. 5,422,797. The Examiner also rejected Claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Abramson, U.S. Patent No. 3,050,619.

Before discussing the prior art relied upon by the Examiner, it is believed beneficial to first briefly review the structure of the invention of the subject Patent Application, as now claimed. The invention of the subject Patent Application is directed to a gathering decoration of bulb assemblies which includes a branchy frame having a trunk and a plurality of branches extending from the trunk. The decoration of bulb assemblies further includes a light string with a plurality of bulb assemblies. A portion of the bulb assemblies is a flower bulb assembly with a flower-holder. The flower bulb assemblies are wrapped around an upper portion of the trunk of the frame and form a lighting flower. A remaining portion of the

bulb assemblies are miniature bulb assemblies wrapped on the branches of the frame to form lighting leaves.

In contradistinction, the Gauthier et al. reference is directed to an artificial Christmas tree wherein branches of the tree are formed by a pair of inter-twisted and insulated electrical wires which plug into the central stalk of the tree. Thus, each branch of the artificial Christmas tree is formed by a lighting string, however, nowhere does the reference disclose or suggest a branchy frame having a trunk and a plurality of branches extending from the trunk, wherein flower bulb assemblies are wrapped around an upper portion of the trunk of the frame and form a lighting flower and a remaining portion of the bulb assemblies are miniature bulb assemblies wrapped on the branches of the frame to form lighting leaves, as now claimed.

The Shattan reference does not overcome the deficiencies of Gauthier et al. The Shattan reference is directed to an illuminated artificial tree formed by a multiplicity of fiber optic elements. In this system, a single lighting source 24 is utilized to illuminate a multiplicity of fiber optic elements 11 which extend to form branches and illuminated ornaments thereon. Each branch is formed by a plurality of fiber optic elements which are wound about a wire 17 having a portion 19 extending beyond the branch for attachment to the trunk. The trunk has a supporting core 20 in which the wire extensions 19 are attached. The fiber optic elements 11 on each branch extend to the light source to be illuminated thereby.

Therefore, nowhere does the reference disclose or suggest a light string with a plurality of bulb assemblies, a portion of the bulb assemblies being a flower bulb assembly with a flower-type holder, the flower bulb assemblies being wrapped around an upper portion of the trunk of the frame and form a lighting flower, a remaining portion of the bulb assemblies being miniature bulb assemblies wrapped on the branches of the frame to form lighting leaves, as now claimed.

As neither Gauthier et al. nor Shattan disclose or suggest the combination of elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application, their combination cannot make obvious the invention of the subject Patent Application, as now claimed.

The Abramson reference is directed to a display outfit with separable decorative flower cover constructions. The reference discloses a lighting string with simulated decorative floral covers for the lamps thereof. While each socket may have a clip for attachment to a Christmas tree branch T or a slideable bead B that may be carried on the wiring W below each socket 11 to form a conventional slip loop attachment for a branch, nowhere does the reference disclose or suggest a branchy frame having a trunk and a plurality of branches extending from the trunk as now claimed. Further, the reference neither discloses nor suggests a light string with a plurality of bulb assemblies, a portion of the bulb assemblies being a flower bulb assembly with a flower-type holder, the flower bulb assemblies being wrapped around an upper portion of the trunk of the frame and form a lighting

flower, a remaining portion of the bulb assemblies being miniature bulb
assemblies wrapped on the branches of the frame to form lighting leaves, as now
claimed.

Therefore, as the reference fails to disclose or suggest the combination of
elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application, it cannot
make obvious that invention.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is now believed that the subject Patent
Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is
respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
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